



January 12, 2024

Dear Members of Chesapeake City Council, City Manager and Planning Staff:

As you know, the Chesapeake Alliance Leadership Circle is a pro-business group made up of 90 influential businesses leaders from more than 70 companies operating in Chesapeake. More than 90% of our members also reside in Chesapeake.

We don't endorse every residential project that comes before you. Rather, we support projects that we feel will benefit the business community and the City as a whole.

We are writing in full support of **PLN-REZ-PUDC-2022-003** also known as Ashburn Meadows.

A recent survey of our business members shows that only 44% of our employees live in Chesapeake. The other 56% commute to and from our sister cities and North Carolina where more affordable housing options are more readily available.

The townhouse units proposed in the Ashburn Meadows project are expected to sell at \$425,000, which would offer a more affordable option for those who wish to work and live in Chesapeake.

Other houses in the Edinburgh area sell for \$600,000, \$700,000 and up. These units are not affordable for most of our employees nor are they affordable for most employed by the City, Chesapeake Public Schools and Chesapeake Regional Medical Center.

This type of housing can also help attract additional employers to Chesapeake as affordable housing is one of the most important criteria in the site selection process.

In addition, approval of this project will result in the investment of millions of dollars of private money to expand Edinburgh Parkway North. The expansion will include new utilities which will provide additional access to the thriving businesses in Edinburgh. It will also help to reduce traffic on Battlefield Blvd., and it will provide an additional route for residents and businesses in the event of an emergency.

We appreciate your support in moving this project forward for our City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David K. Ropp', is written over a blue horizontal line.

**David K. Ropp, Chairman**

*All attached e-signatures are authorized and approved.*



Authorized E-Signatures from Chesapeake Alliance Members:

We the undersigned, as members of the Chesapeake Alliance are in strong support of the Coastal Virginia Commerce Park (aka The Williams Farm development).

*Shaun Avery, Rusty Bailey, Max Bartholomew,  
Sandra Baynes, Michael Benedetto, Bill Blankenship,  
Rhonda Bridgeman, Jeb Britt, Josi Brown, Curtis Byrd,  
Derrick Carpinelli, Jennifer Carpinelli, Vonda Chappell,  
Clyde Clark, Ellen Coley, Kevin Cosgrove, Chris Crouch,  
Robert Culpepper, Clint Damuth, Phil Damuth, Kimberly  
Frost, Ricardo Frost, Jeffrey Ganthner, Leon Garber, Dana  
Weston Graves, Chris Gullickson, Dave Hare, Amy Harris,  
Kim Hubbard, Owen Hubbard, Reese Jackson,  
William "Billy" Jones, Mick Keese, Jaime, Kennedy, Eric  
Keplinger, Robert Kinser, Mike Kos, Pete Kotarides, Jay  
Leftwich, Darcus Leroy, Jeff Leroy, Troy Lindsey, Gary  
Lundholm, Catherine Magill, Clifford Magill, Stephanie  
Marioneaux MD, Harold Marioneaux, Jr., Vince Mastracco,  
Dawn Matheson, Dean McClain, Thaler McCormick, JD Miles,  
Juan "Doc" Montero, John Murphy, Grady Palmer, Sanjay  
Patel, Teresa Peters,, Robert Prodan, Jimmy Reece, Thomas  
Retnauer, Patrick Reynolds, Lindsey Riddle Elliott, Season R.  
Roberts, Terri Ruby, Eddie Russell, Lacy Shirey,  
Eric Stichler,, Barrett Stork, Malay Thakker, Tony Thiel,  
Chase Townsend, Angel Velaquex, Karen Whitesell, Gilbert  
"Chip" Wirth, Riley Wirth,  
Kristi Wooten, Bill Young*